INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Severo-Donetsk Chemical and Explosives Plant near Lisichansk

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The chemical plant in Severo-Donetsk was located 3.5 km northeast of the town of Lisichansk (48°50'N/38°23'E) and was connected with the town by a hard surfaced road and a new bridge over the Donets River. There was a strip of swampland, about 2 km wide, between the plant in Severo-Donetsk and Lisichansk. The plant was connected with the town of Rubezhnaya (49°01'N/38°23'E), about 10 km away, by a railroad spur and a road. A railroad track led south from the plant and joined the main line near Verkhneye (48°45'N/38°28'E) on the left bank of the Donets River opposite the DON SODA plant.

25X1 2. Prior to the spring of 1949, the plant and the workers' settlement belonging to the plant were called Lisichimstroy (Lisichansk Chemical Compound). Since that time, it has been referred to either as the Severo Donetskiy Zavod or by its numerical designation, Plant No 20. The plant was established prior to the war, but was largely destroyed during the war. In 1947 and 1948, the manufacture of a number of products was resumed, but reconstruction was still under way. *

3. The enclosed area of the plant, which included a number of sections still under construction prior to March 1949, was about 1,100 x 1,000 meters. Adjoining this area on the northwest was another enclosed area, of about 0.25 sq km., which was used as a storage yard for dismantled industrial equipment, but allegedly was to become a building site for another enlargement of the plant. Miscellaneous installations dismantled at the Lenina Works in Ivano (C 52/B 94), and the trimethylenetrinitramine ($C_3H_6O_6N_6$) explosives factory in Dzerzhinsk (C 52/B 10) were used for the reconstruction of the plant. Several departments, some of which were put into operation as early as 1948, were used for nitrating purposes. About 1 km east of the plant, there were a large number of earth bunkers which were used to store explosives. In early 1949, a department manufacturing picric acid and installations manufacturing coal tar dyes were also in operation. Electricity was supplied to the plant from the thermo-electric power plant GRES in Verkhneye. **

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25X1 4. [redacted] Plant No. 20 produced picric acid and its
25X1 intermediate products, as well as coal-tar dyes. [redacted] trimethylenetrinitramine and inorganic explosives, such as ammonium nitrate, were produced in this plant. Fertilizers were also produced. ***

5. The primary raw materials used in the plant were coal tar and other products obtained from the coal-gasifying plant in Lisichansk, as well as soda and caustic alkalis supplied from the DON SODA plant in Verkhneye. The basic materials for picric acid were made in the plant
25X1 itself. [redacted] unable to state whether the basic material for trimethylenetrinitramine ($C_3H_6O_6N_6$), namely hexamethylenetetramine, was made in the plant or was supplied from the outside.

6. As of late 1940, the number of employees of the entire plant was estimated at about 1,000 Soviet workers and 1,000 female internees, many of whom were German. Prior to May 1951, German experts were also employed in the laboratories, but were usually assigned tasks which were not connected with the manufacturing program of the plant.

7. The plant area was partly enclosed by a wall, 2.5 meters high, and partly by a board fence reinforced with barbed wire. The plant was guarded by industrial police, wearing blue uniforms, with watchdogs. Several departments of the plant were guarded by military personnel. The soldiers, most of whom were Mongolian, wore red epaulets. Outgoing shipments of explosives were carried by trucks escorted by industrial police and equipped with small red warning flags. The plant had a fire brigade. The various buildings of the plant were far apart. There were a large number of foam fire extinguishers and sand boxes.

25X1 * [redacted] Comment. This plant, which was reconstructed under the general reconstruction program for all industrial installations around Lisichansk, is the parent plant for the former Lisichansk chemical compound established about 1932. The reconstruction activities observed in 1932 were concentrated on the enlargement of the coal-tar dye combine in Rubezhnaya. The extensive coal supplies of the Lisichansk coal district are used as raw material. Originally, by-products from a coking plant in Lisichansk were produced in this plant. Later, by-products from the underground coal-gasifying plant, [redacted], were also processed in this plant.

25X1 ** [redacted] Comment. For layout sketch of the plant, see Annex, based on information [redacted] and on an aerial photograph of 1943. [redacted] statements on the layout of the plant differ from the aerial photograph of the plant on several points. It is believed that this is because of the extensive destruction during the war and the changes made during the reconstruction. Because of the large quantity of dismantled industrial equipment stored near the plant, it is believed that it was planned to continue the expansion of the plant installations after the spring of 1949.

25X1 *** [redacted] Comment. It appears that the postwar activities of Plant No 20 are concentrated on explosives. Dyestuffs are produced only insofar as the production of intermediate products for both dyes and explosives are the same. Fertilizers are obtained as by-products and waste materials. If the entire trimethylenetrinitramine-manufacturing installation from Christianstadt (O 52/3 EC) is set up in the Donets-Donetsk plant, a monthly capacity of about 1,000 tons of trimethylenetrinitramine may be expected.

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Layout Sketch of the Severo Donetsk Chemical and Explosives Plant.

LEGEND: see next page

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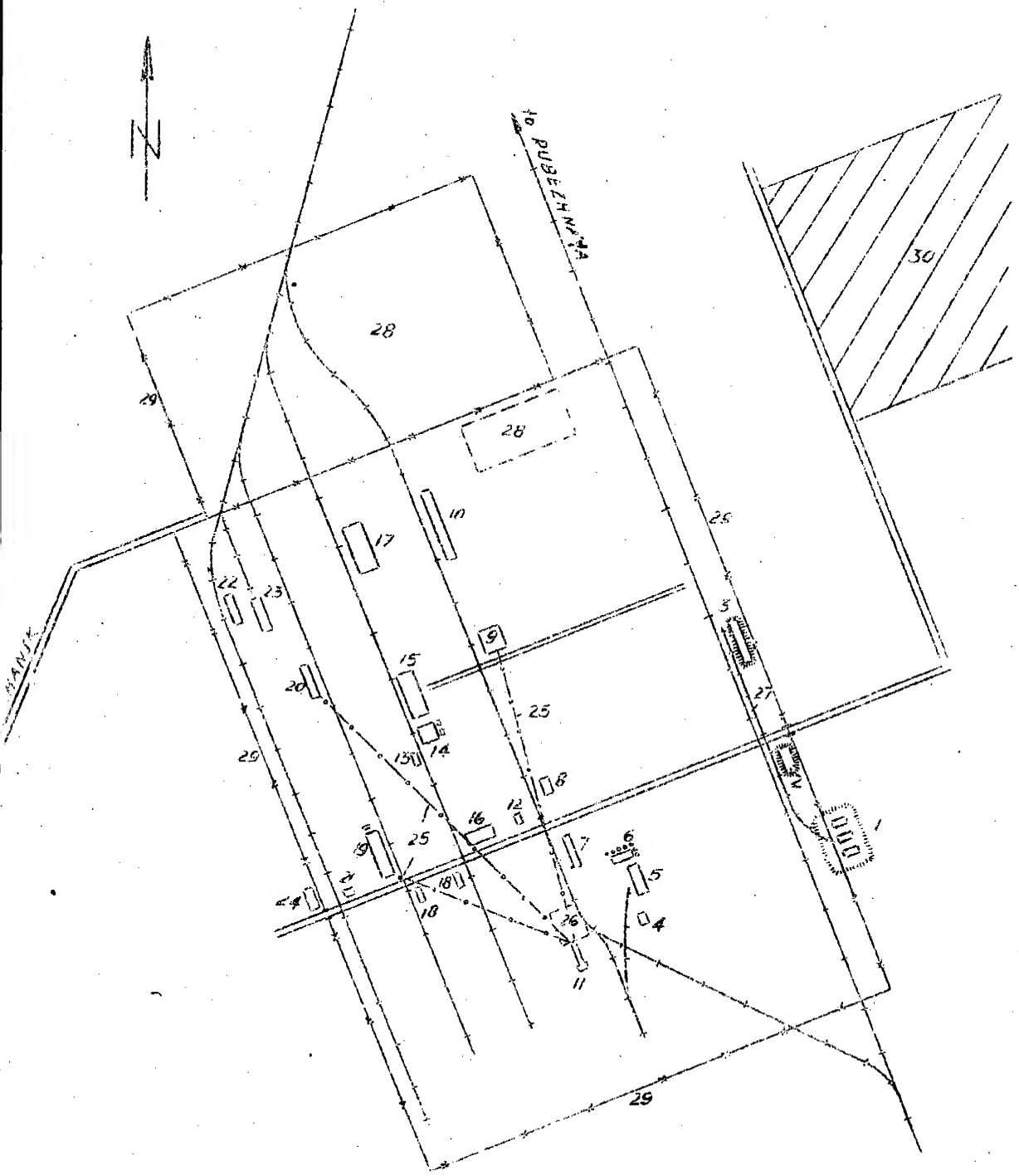
Attachment

- 1 -



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- 2 -

Legend:

1. Picric acid manufacturing department consisting of three buildings surrounded by an embankment, about [illegible] meters high. A field railway track led through an opening in the embankment, which was wide enough to admit trucks to the buildings. The material produced and stored in this department was shipped away in paper bags. The workers employed in this department wore dust protective masks and were colored quite yellow, as were the buildings and the surrounding area.

2. Three-story brick building, about 50 x 30 meters, surrounded by an embankment. The use of electrical installations in the building was forbidden.

3. Three-story brick building, about 100 x 30 meters, surrounded by a high embankment. Several stirrers, 1.2 meters high and 1.5 meters in diameter, were located on the second floor. They were allegedly lined with sheet lead.

4. Small transformer house.

5. Three-story brick building, about 70 x 25 meters, with several large granite basins on the first floor and six vertical tanks, 2 meters high and 1.5 meters in diameter, on the second floor.

6. Two-story brick building, about 45 x 20 meters, with two built-in vertical tanks. Three tanks, about 5 meters high and 1.2 meters in diameter, were located outside the eastern wall. Four vertical tanks were located outside the northern wall.

7. Three-story brick building, about 70 x 12 meters. On the second floor were eight stirrers, 1.5 meters high and 1.2 meters in diameter, made of chrome-nickel steel and lined with sheet lead.

8. Three-story brick building, with two large basins on the first floor and several vertical tanks on the second floor.

9. Brick building, 50 x 50 x 10 meters. Installation of the equipment of the building was completed by early 1948. Four steel tanks, 5 meters high and 4 meters in diameter, lined with acidproof stone, were installed in the corners of the building. These tanks were connected by pipe lines and a main line led from the boiler house. There were passageways on top of, and between, the tanks.

10. Three-story brick building, about 150 x 20 meters, which was not destroyed during the war. The first floor was divided into several rooms, including workshops equipped with lathes, drilling machines, one grinding machine, and other equipment. In early 1948, large foundations for unidentified machines were completed in one room. Several rooms were used to store dismantled industrial equipment, such as coils of wire, electrical fittings, etc.

11. Boilerhouse, a red brick building, about 50 x 10 x 6 meters, equipped with three boilers each with one hearth. There was a smokestack at the northern corner of the building. A workshop, about 20 x 8 x 3 meters, adjoined the southern section of the building. In early 1948, several lathes were installed there. Several pipe lines, supported by steel towers, led from the boiler house to the various departments of the plant.

ILLEGIB [redacted]

vertical tanks, [illegible] meters high and 3 meters in diameter, and [illegible] other equipment.

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[redacted] 25X1
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13. Subdivided two or three-story wood frame building, 30 x 10 meters, equipped with 10 small stirrers.

14. Three-story brick building, about 35 meters square, equipped with four vertical tanks, 6 meters high and 6 meters in diameter, and with other equipment. Outside the north wall were two boilers, which allegedly were used to store alcohol.

15. Three-story building, about 100 x 40 meters. The equipment included several vertical tanks, 6 meters high and 2 meters in diameter, lined with acidproof stone.

16. Building in which paper bags were made.

17. Brick buildings, about 100 x 40 meters. The equipment included several tanks, about 6 meters high and 6 meters in diameter, lined with acidproof stone.

18. Two small material warehouses.

19. Three-story brick building, about 100 x 30 x 10 meters. On the first floor was a large room, equipped with six vertical tanks, which were widely interspaced. All tanks were connected by chrome-nickel steel pipe lines. The tanks were 3.5 meters high and 1.5 meters in diameter. A room, equipped with a number of pumps, was located at the northern end of the building. Another room, where equipment in early 1949 consisted only of multiple pipe lines, was located in the southeastern corner of the building. At that time, work on equipping the second floor had just started. A yellow product, which was produced prior to the destruction of the plant, was allegedly again being produced in this installation. During the reconstruction work, it appeared that the soil was completely soaked with this product, whose penetrating odor had a lachrymatory effect, and which corroded shoes and clothing. Outside the northern wall was an aluminum tank, about 12 meters long and 2 meters in diameter. The building and the boiler house were connected by a pipe line, supported by masts.

20. Four-story limestone building, about 10 x 20 meters. The building suffered very little damage during the war and most of the equipment was saved. The floors were asphalted. The equipment included numerous tanks, stirrers, and pipe lines. The building and the boiler house were connected by a pipe line supported by masts. This installation produced a blue-violet product, which was brick-shaped when completed. The building, its vicinity, and the individuals employed there were colored blue-violet. Workers used this product to make ink. Soda packed in sacks was frequently brought to this building from a storage shed. The storage shed was refilled, at 3-day intervals, with about 60 tons of soda supplied from the [redacted]-[redacted] plant in Verkhneye.

21. Plant entrance with small guardhouse.

22. Garage, in which 15 [redacted]-owned GAZ trucks were stored.

23. Warehouse for paper, sacks, clothing, etc. Food was also stored in one room of the building.

24. Fire brigade building.

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Attachment

27. Field railway.

28. Extensive storage yards, where German industrial equipment dismantled at Henna, Christianstadt, etc., was stored.

29. Fences.

30. Settlement.

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